

REMARKS

Submitted herewith is a Petition under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for a three month extension of the time and a request to charge the deposit account of Applicants' attorneys, Deposit Account No. 03-3975. The Office Action mailed July 30, 2001 set an initial one month period for response. Accordingly, with the granting of this Petition, the time period in which to submit a timely response to the Office Action mailed July 30, 2001 will be extended to November 30, 2001.

Applicants note that the Office Action mailed July 30, 2001 did not include a Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948). Accordingly, no drawing corrections are submitted at this time.

Notice to Comply

Applicants note that the Office Action mailed July 30, 2001 included a Notice to Comply with Requirements for Patent Applications Containing Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Disclosures which noted that Applicants must provide an initial or substitute computer readable form (CRF) of the Sequence Listing and a statement that the content of the paper and the computer readable copies are the same and contain no new matter as required by 37 C.F.R. §§1.821(e), (f) or (g) or §§1.825(b) or (d). Applicants note that the CRF was inadvertently not included in their Response to Notice to Comply submitted under Certificate of Express Mailing on March 23, 2001.

Applicants note that submitted herewith is a CRF and the Statement as required by the Notice to Comply which accompanied the July 30, 2001 Office Action and also a copy of the present Notice to Comply itself.

The Restriction/Election Requirement

In the Office Action mailed July 30, 2001, the Examiner required restriction to one of the following inventions:

- Group I: Claims 1 to 7, drawn to a method of treating a condition that is ameliorated by inhibiting or decreasing serine protease activity of matriptase;
- Group II: Claims 8 to 12, drawn to a method of detecting a compound that inhibits serine protease activity of matriptase; and
- Group III: Claims 13 to 15, drawn to a serine protease domain derived from matriptase.

In response to the above-noted restriction requirement, Applicants provisionally elect the invention of Group I with traverse. Applicants submit that the inventions of Groups I and II are properly examinable together without undue burden on the Examiner. Applicants note that the inventions of both Groups I and II are related to inhibition of serine protease activity of matriptase and, thus, have a common focus. Accordingly, Applicants request that the Examiner reconsider his restriction requirement and combine the inventions of Groups I and II for the purposes of examination.

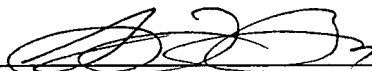
Conclusion

If the Examiner believes that a telephone interview would expedite prosecution of this application, she is encouraged to telephone the undersigned Applicants' attorney.

If the fee authorized is incorrect or if any other fees are due in connection with this submission, please charge any such fee or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 03-3975.

Respectfully submitted,

Pillsbury Winthrop LLP

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